

<i>T. officinale</i> Weber	10
<i>Lactuca spicata</i> (Lam.) Hitchc.	15

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

FALCARIA RIVINI, A PLANT NEW TO THE UNITED STATES

E. M. GRESS.

A COLONY of *Falcaria rivini* Host.¹ has been discovered on the farm of S. G. Myers about 4 miles south of Mercersburg, Franklin County, Pa. The colony covers an area about 10 ft. in diameter in the middle of a field of limestone soil.

Mr. Myers first noticed the plant about five years ago growing in the clover and timothy, but gave little attention to it until he noticed that the plant was not eradicated by the ordinary method of crop rotation which consisted of clover and timothy, followed by corn, this being followed by wheat.

A specimen of the plant was shown to Dr. John L. Bradley, a Veterinarian of Mercersburg, Pa., who noticed at once that the plant was not one of our common weeds. Dr. Bradley sent some specimens to the Bureau of Plant Industry at Harrisburg, for identification.

The writer accompanied by Dr. Bradley visited the colony on September 9th and found that the plants had been cut off about 8 inches above the ground by the binder when the wheat had been harvested, but that they had sprouted out from the cut stem. Some of the young branches were in bloom while others had passed the blooming period and contained immature fruits. We started to dig up the roots of one of the plants by using a large pen knife. We soon found that it could not be done with this instrument and Mr. Myers secured a mattock for the purpose. We dug as deep as we could with the mattock and then secured a post digger to finish the job. Everything went well until a large limestone rock was encountered through which we could not dig but through which the root seemed to find its way, probably through a crevice. We then cut the root off and measuring it, found it to be 35 inches long. The root was about

¹ *Falcaria vulgaris* Brnh., *Critamus agrestis* Bess., *Drepanophyllum sioides* Web. *Sium falcaria* L., *Bunium falcaria* Bieb., *Drepanophyllum agreste* Hoffm. & Koch. *Seseli falcaria* Crantz, *Crithmum umbelliferum* Bauh.

$\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter throughout the entire length and had penetrated the soil in a vertical direction.

We did not find any seedlings and the plant seems not to be spreading by seeds but the colony is increasing in diameter by the underground roots. Many rosettes of young plants were found over the area and particularly around the outer edge.

Observations of the colony leads us to believe that the plant will become a very noxious weed if allowed to spread. Failure to spread by seeds may be due to the fact that the plant has been cut before the seeds were mature enough to grow or it may be that viable seeds do not form in its new habitat. These facts have not as yet been determined. There is no doubt, however, that it is able to spread and persist by its deep perennial roots.

The plant is a native of southern and middle Europe and parts of Asia and has been found in Argentina and Costa Rica but so far as we can find out it has never before been found growing in the United States.

Casually the plant would probably be mistaken for wild carrot. The leaves, however, are so different from the lace-like leaf of wild carrot that there is no difficulty in distinguishing it from that plant.

The leaves are ternately pinnate, glaucescent, the leaflets are linear-lanceolate, decurrent, finely and irregularly serrate, the teeth terminated by a sharp cartilaginous point, the middle leaflet is generally divided into three equal decurrent parts or leaflets, the lateral leaflets are irregularly divided into one to three parts or leaflets. The root leaves are long-petioled, while those on the stem have short inflated petioles. The umbels are many-rayed with both involucre and involucel of small, narrow bracts. The flowers are small with a five-toothed calyx and white incurved petals. The fruit (not mature) is oblong with widely diverging styles and filiform ribs and one oil-tube in each furrow between the ribs.

OFFICE OF STATE BOTANIST, Harrisburg, Pa.

THE NATIVE TANSY OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

M. L. FERNALD.

IN a recent valuable little collection brought back from Flower's Cove on the Newfoundland side of the Straits of Belle Isle by Miss